First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

July 16, 2023
10:00 am

“Open the Doors Wider”

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:45 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Interactive – Zoom Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

RINGING THE BELL — **MARTY KLEINO**

PRELUDE — ***Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud** — **JOSHUA CATANIA**

"We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder"
African-American Spiritual

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS — **TAD WYSOR**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.
- **Melanie Harner,** Zoom Host, will introduce folks participating in worship.
- Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved community.
- Please submit written announcements to by e-mail to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN — *Microphone muted — **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"You Are Welcome Here"
26 SING

CALL TO WORSHIP — *Responsive Microphone muted — **TAD WYSOR**

Leader: For sunlight dancing on white-crested waves,

People: Creative God, we offer our thanks and praise.

Leader: For sunlight dappling forest glades,

People: Creative God, we offer our thanks and praise.

Leader: For sunlight gilding wheat and maize,

People: Creative God, we offer our thanks and praise.

Leader: For sunlight lengthening summer days,

People: Creative God, we offer our thanks and praise.

HYMN — *Microphone muted *Standing optional — **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"You Are the Salt of the Earth"
181 NCH

LISTENING FOR GOD

FIRST READING — **"Help us to See"** — **TAD WYSOR**

A contemporary reading based on Acts 1:10-11a *Why do you stand looking up towards heaven?*

SECOND READING — **John 17:1-11** — **TAD WYSOR**

HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Go Forth, O People of God"
614 NCH

MORNING MESSAGE **"Open the Doors Wider"** **REV.DR.KAREN GEORGIA THOMPSON**
General Minister & President, United Church of Christ

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording **TAD WYSOR**
*Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Restart Zoom recording **TAD WYSOR**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER *Unison with Microphone muted **TAD WYSOR**

All-knowing God,
We know you understand us more deeply than we understand ourselves.
You know how much the cares of this life weigh us down.
Our thoughts and actions are often very shortsighted.
We take so much for granted, failing to value the wonder of life all around us,
the gift of family and friends, the amazing reality of your Spirit dwelling in us.
We want to be like good soil, receiving the seed of your word with understanding,
nourishing roots of trust and joy.
Free us from all keeping us from bearing fruit for you. Amen.

Use this moment of silence to offer your own prayers.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY INVITATION **TAD WYSOR**

God's gift in Jesus reminds us what is entrusted to us is meant to be shared. May the joy we discover in God's word be passed on through our generous giving. .

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **"Softly and Tenderly"** **JOSHUA CATANIA**
Will L. Thompson

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Take My Gifts" v 2, 562 NCH

Take the fruits that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,
Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,
Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,
*Tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief***.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **TAD WYSOR**

Accept our gifts and our offering of ourselves, O God.
May the ministry in which all of us have a share bear much fruit,
bringing an abundant harvest for your realm. Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Isaiah the Prophet Has Written" 108 NCH

BENEDICTION *Microphone muted *Unison **TAD WYSOR**

It is time.
God sends us out to meet the neighbors.
We find hospitality in unexpected places.
May we search diligently for Christ in the people we meet.
We go to live our lives as good news!
Amen.

POSTLUDE **"Improvisation"** **JOSHUA CATANIA**
J. Cantania

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

***Save Zoom Recording to Cloud (click "yes")

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Zoom Only Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director
Joshua Catania, Accompanist
Jenn Zibbell, MID
Tad Wysor, Worship Leader

YPSILANTI FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Worship Address:
111 S. Wallace Street
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734-482-6980
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ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** NEOM, *unsplash*
- **Call to Worship,** Avis Palmer in *Summer* ed. by Ruth Burgess.
- **Disciples Prayer, Prayer of Dedication, Offering Invitation:** Lavon Bayler, *Taught by Love*
- **Benediction:** Wetaskiwin Writers, in *gathingworship.*
- **Hymn Profiles:** *New Century Hymnal Companion,* Pilgrim Press (1999)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For pastoral care needs and/or emergencies, please call or text Donna Eyster, 734-780-5857.

Today's message is the address by **Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, the newly elected General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ,** from General Synod, Plenary 2, in accepting the nomination. More information about Rev. Thompson is below in these announcements.

Worship Next Week: Zoom Host, Melanie Harner; Bring the Message, Rev. Nancy Rohde; Liturgist, John Rohde.

Worship moving forward: July 30th, Rev. LeAnn Seito

Opening worship in its entirety from General Synod has been recorded and will be used for worship at a later date. The message from opening worship is ***The Water Is Coming,*** Jamar Doyle, President/CEO, UCC Council for Health & Human Services.

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson was born in Kingston, Jamaica, she immigrated to New York City as a teenager, eventually graduating from Brooklyn College. She later obtained a Master of Public Administration from North Carolina Central University and a Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in New York. She received her Doctorate in Ministry from Seattle University, **publishing her dissertation** on the multiple religious traditions practiced by African Caribbean people.

"I am the descendant of people who were brought from Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Kenya and Ghana into the Americas as enslaved people," Thompson said to the board prior to its vote. "I stand before you today because they believed and knew we are more than we were declared by those who deemed them to be less than human. I stand before you today carrying the wisdom they bore as healers, seers, spiritualists and interpreters of dreams. I am here because my parents who did not have as much as a high school education sent me to school and believed I could be more than they could be.

"She explained that her interlocking identities as a Black woman, an African descendant, a Jamaican immigrant, a poet and a public theologian all are central to Thompson's life, work and ministry.

Thompson has served in the National Setting for more than a decade. Prior to **her election as AGM in 2019**, she was Minister for Racial Justice, then Minister for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations. In those positions, she helped foster "Sacred Conversations on Race," implement the **A.C.T. Now to End Racism** initiative and promote racial justice and ecumenical relations on a global scale.

Before her national service, Thompson was Minister for Disaster Response and Recovery for the **Florida Conference**. And before that, she became the first female pastor of African descent in the Conference when she was called to the new-start, 15-member New Hope UCC in DeLand, Fla.

The congregation rented space from the local synagogue," she recalled to the board. "Those 15 people were more like three to five in weekly attendance. Every Sunday, the hymnals, the large church Bible, the large wooden cross, the sound system and the keyboard were packed into the back of my car and taken to their places in the synagogue for Sunday worship."

That local church ministry, she explained, informs her work now as a UCC leader.

"I am a pastor," Thompson said. "My experience of 19 years ago is not far removed from those of our pastors today. Bi-vocational realities compete with quality of life and the ability to nurture self-care and attend adequately to the needs of family. Our small churches are still struggling along with rural churches and new churches."

On March 13, 2022,the Unit ed Church of Christ central offices relocated to smaller space in Cleveland, Rev. Thompson read her poem "from this place" during the **farewell service** for the Amistad Chapel and the Church House. The poem's final lines proclaim that, **amid a time of transition, God's people are *guided by God / who is always with us / our hopes for the future surpassing our memories of the past.***

OUR MINISTRIES

HOLY GROUNDS AND TEA FOR THE SOUL

During the Omicron (COVID) surge members of Ypsi UCC provided local coffee, tea, coffee cups, and single packaged snacks for the night shift at Trinity Health St. Joe Mercy Hospital where Rev. Dan Kidder-McQuown is the night challplain. While the COVID crisis has partially resolved, the stress level of the night staff has not. Contributing factors include the long-term emerging effects of COVID, a lack of staff, a nation-wide nurse shortage, and staff burnout. The night shift greatly appreciates this ministry of hospitality and caring.

Please consider donating coffee that is roasted by local Michigan companies. Tea and single packaged candy or snacks are also welcome. Please contact Marty Kleino at Mgkleino@gmail.com or 734-262-1419 to have your donation delivered to St. Joes. If you would like more information about this ministry, please contact Dan Kidder-McQuown at mcq188@gmail.com or 517-240-8413.

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with

Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

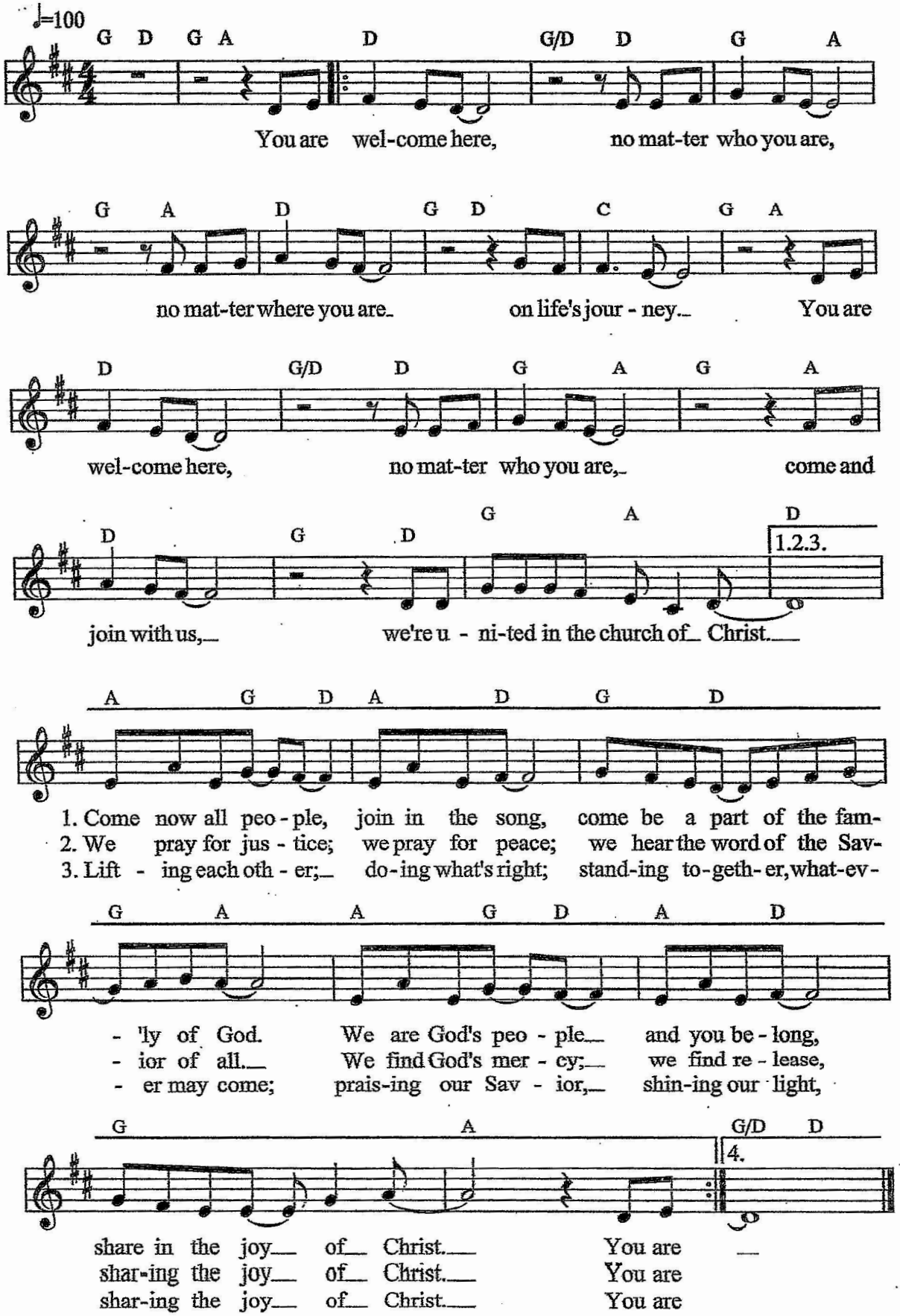
WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION

First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.

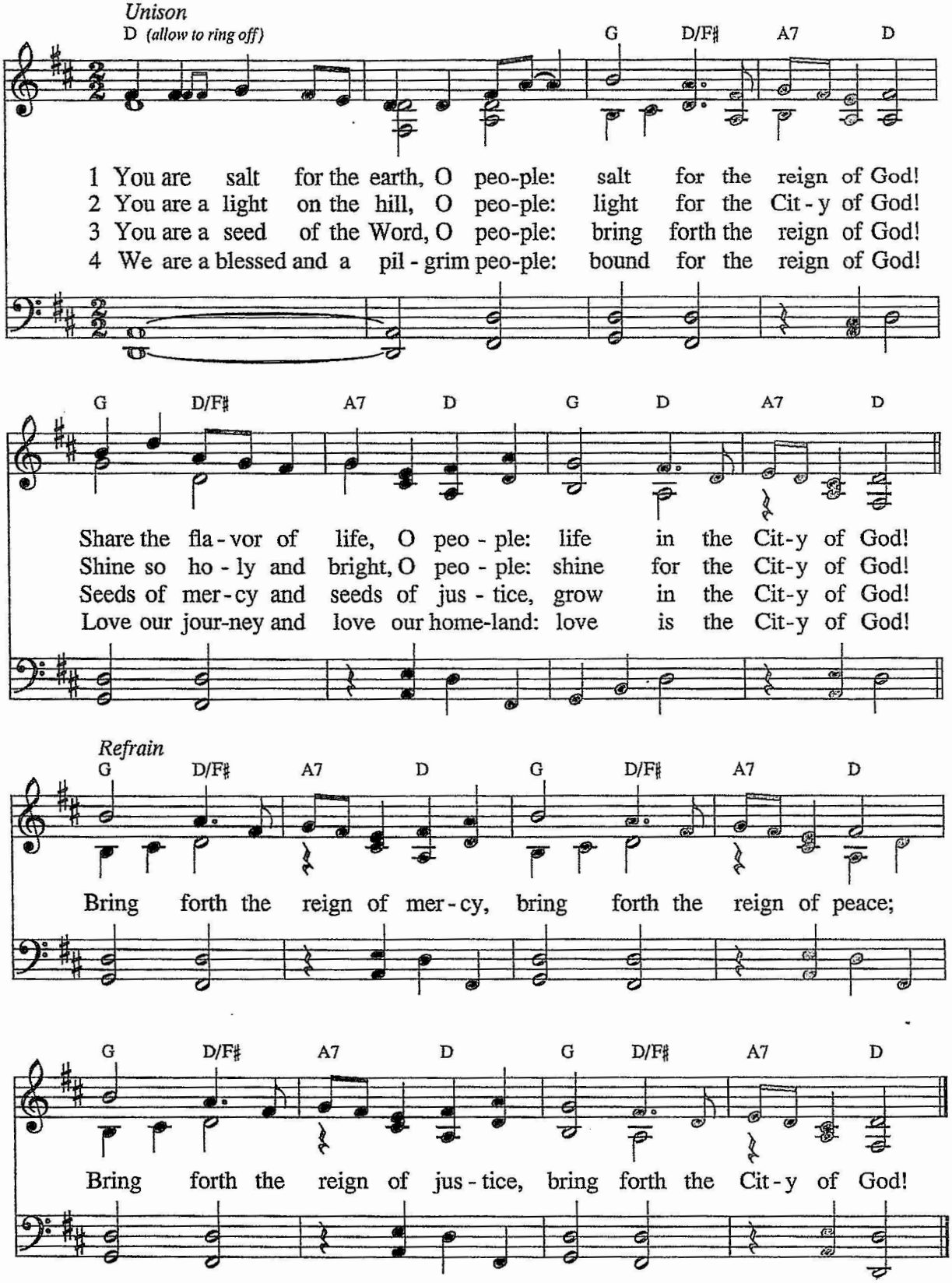
WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

You Are Welcome Here

♩=100
G D G A D G/D D G A
You are wel-come here, no mat-ter who you are,
G A D G D C G A
no mat-ter where you are_ on life's jour - ney._ You are
D G/D D G A G A
wel-come here, no mat-ter who you are,_ come and
D G D G A D
1.2.3.
join with us,_ we're u - ni-ted in the church of_ Christ.___
A G D A D G D
1. Come now all peo - ple, join in the song, come be a part of the fam-
2. We pray for jus - tice; we pray for peace; we hear the word of the Sav-
3. Lift - ing each oth - er;_ do-ing what's right; stand-ing to-geth-er, what-ev-
G A A G D A D
- 'ly of God. We are God's peo - ple___ and you be - long,
- ior of all.___ We find God's mer - cy;___ we find re - lease,
- er may come; prais-ing our Sav - ior,___ shin-ing our light,
G A G/D D
4.
share in the joy___ of___ Christ.___ You are ___
shar-ing the joy___ of___ Christ.___ You are
shar-ing the joy___ of___ Christ.___ You are

Words and Music: Gerard DeMan, Copyright ©2007. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

You Are Salt for the Earth, O People 181

Paraphr. by Marty Haugen, 1986; alt. *Matt. 5:13–15*

Unison
D (allow to ring off)
G D/F♯ A7 D
1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the reign of God!
2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the Cit-y of God!
3 You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: bring forth the reign of God!
4 We are a blessed and a pil-grim peo-ple: bound for the reign of God!
G D/F♯ A7 D G D A7 D
Share the fla-vor of life, O peo-ple: life in the Cit-y of God!
Shine so ho-ly and bright, O peo-ple: shine for the Cit-y of God!
Seeds of mer-cy and seeds of jus-tice, grow in the Cit-y of God!
Love our jour-ney and love our home-land: love is the Cit-y of God!
Refrain
G D/F♯ A7 D G D/F♯ A7 D
Bring forth the reign of mer-cy, bring forth the reign of peace;
G D/F♯ A7 D G D/F♯ A7 D
Bring forth the reign of jus-tice, bring forth the Cit-y of God!

During a residency at Holden Village, a retreat center in the state of Washington, Marty Haugen wrote this hymn to be used as a "processing song" for outdoor worship. The lectionary readings focusing on Jesus' teaching about the "reign of God" provided the basis for the text.

Tune: BRING FORTH Irr. with refrain
Marty Haugen, 1986

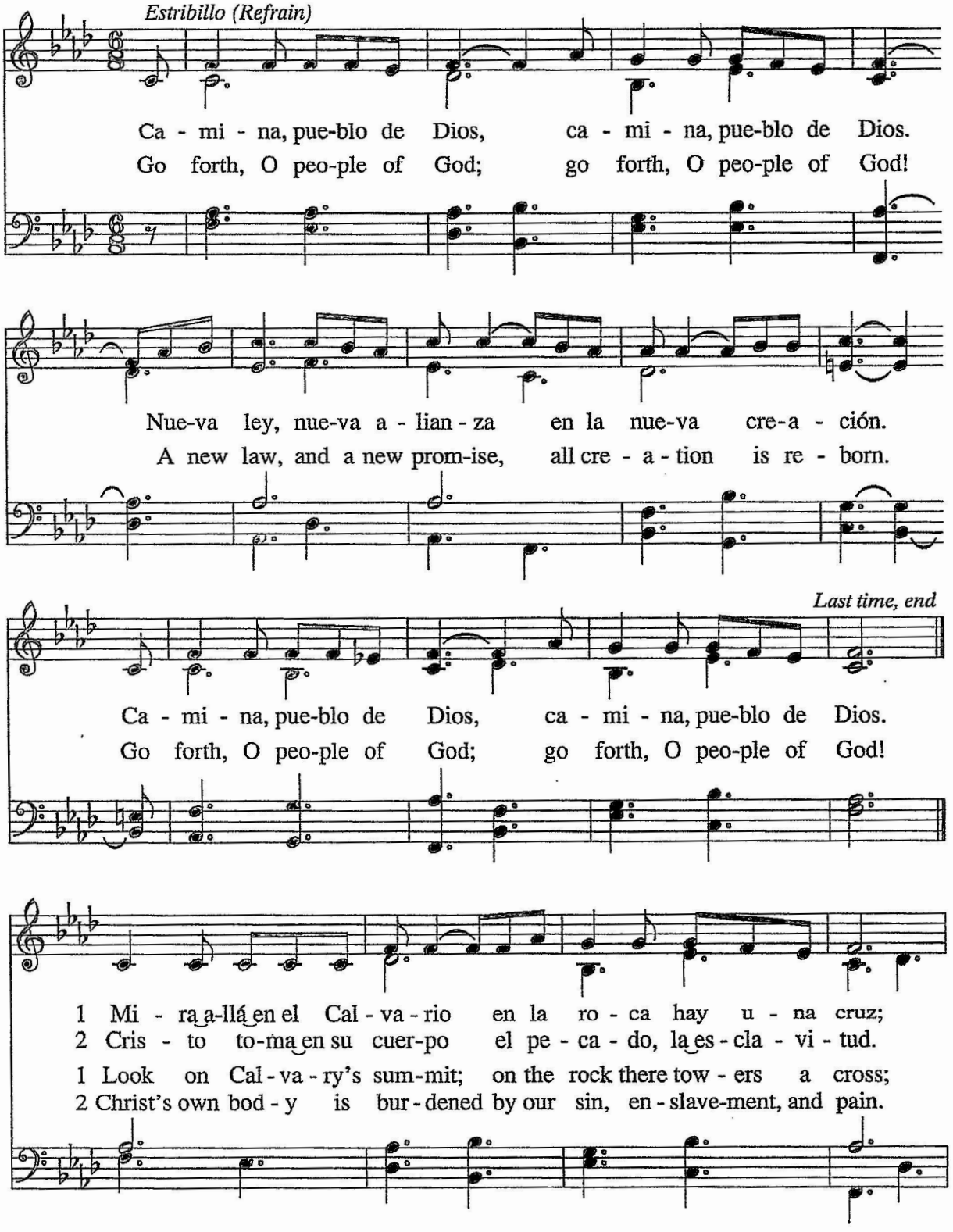
Copyright © 1986 by G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

614 Camina, Pueblo de Dios
(Go Forth, O People of God)

Rom. 7:5–8:4; 2 Cor. 5:14–19; Rev. 21:1–7

Cesáreo Gabaraín, 1979
Transl. George Lockwood, 1987; alt.

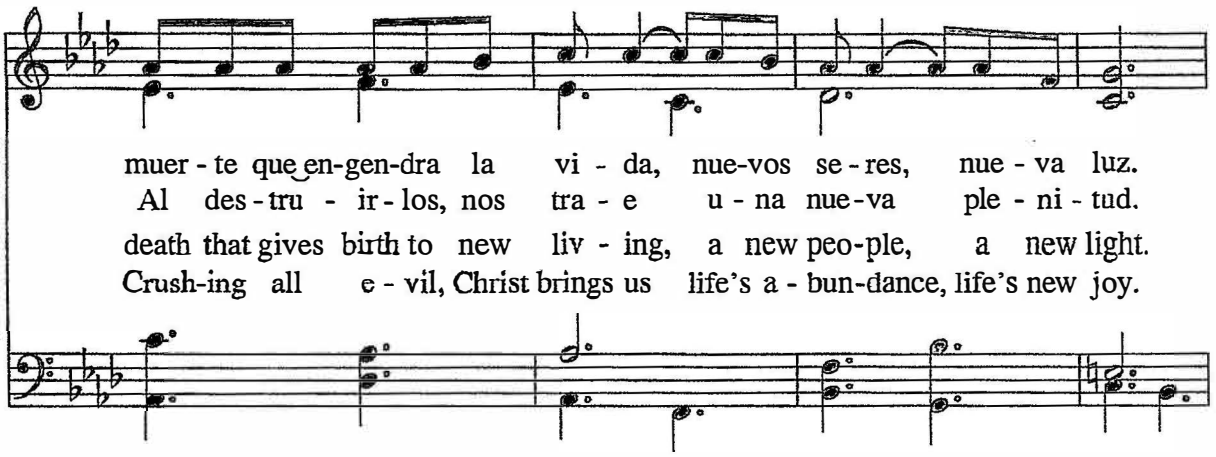
Unison

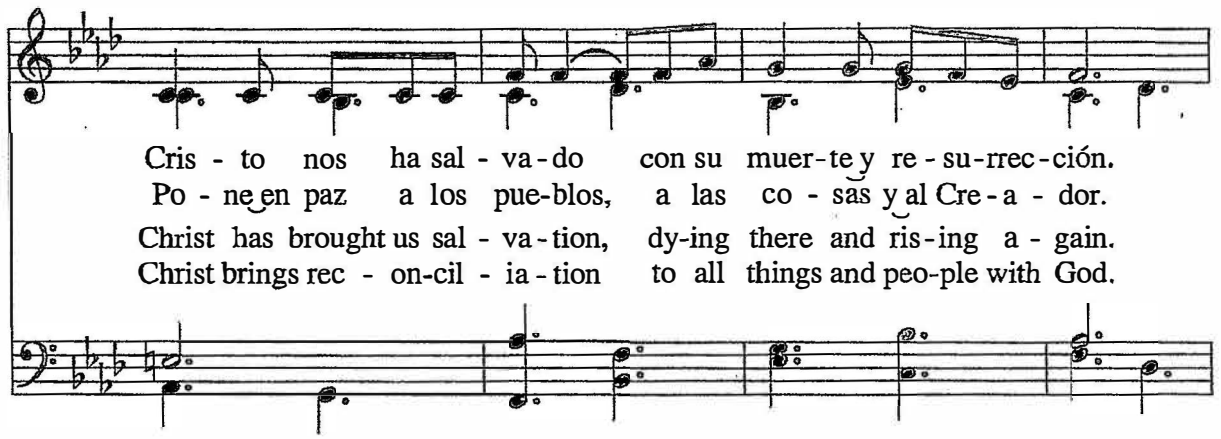
Estribillo (Refrain)

Ca - mi - na, pue-blo de Dios, ca - mi - na, pue-blo de Dios.
Go forth, O peo-ple of God; go forth, O peo-ple of God!
Nue-va ley, nue-va a - lian - za en la nue-va cre-a - ción.
A new law, and a new prom-ise, all cre - a - tion is re - born.
Last time, end
Ca - mi - na, pue-blo de Dios, ca - mi - na, pue-blo de Dios.
Go forth, O peo-ple of God; go forth, O peo-ple of God!
1 Mi - ra a-llá en el Cal - va - rio en la ro - ca hay u - na cruz;
2 Cris - to to-ma en su cuer-po el pe - ca - do, la es - cla - vi - tud.
1 Look on Cal - va - ry's sum-mit; on the rock there tow - ers a cross;
2 Christ's own bod - y is bur - dened by our sin, en - slave-ment, and pain.

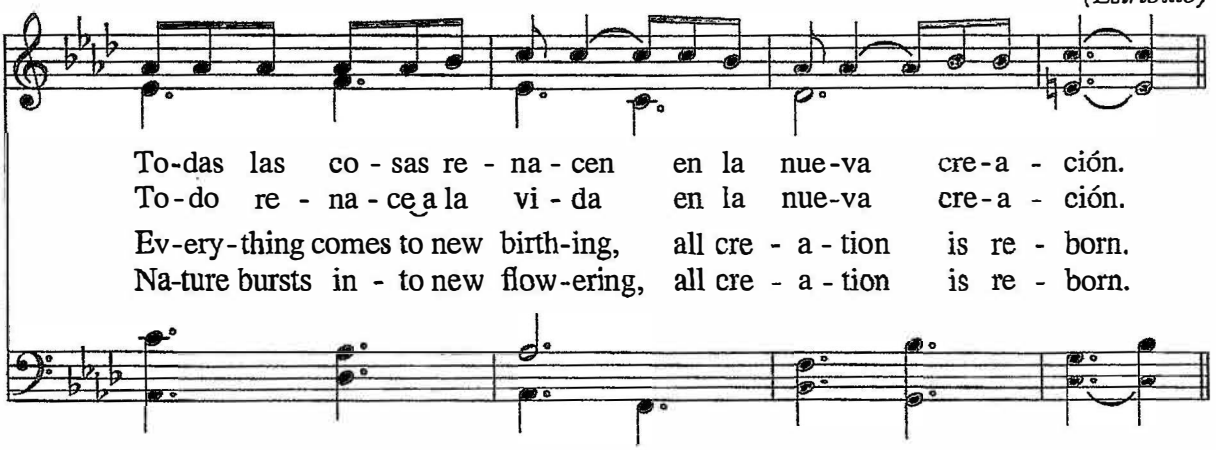
Cesáreo Gabaraín was a Roman Catholic priest who was very active as a congregational composer and head of a liturgical music association. He also served as the Spanish chaplain to Pope Paul VI, and was given the title "emeritus" shortly before his death in 1991.

Tune: NUEVA CREACION 7.8.8.7.D. with refrain
Cesáreo Gabaraín, 1979
Harm. Juan Luis García, 1987

Music © 1979, Cesáreo Gabaraín. Published by OCP Publications.


muer - te que en-gen-dra la vi - da, nue-vos se - res, nue - va luz.
Al des - tru - ir - los, nos tra - e u - na nue-va ple - ni - tud.
death that gives birth to new liv - ing, a new peo-ple, a new light.
Crush-ing all e - vil, Christ brings us life's a - bun-dance, life's new joy.


Cris - to nos ha sal - va - do con su muer-te y re - su-rrec-ción.
Po - ne en paz a los pue-blos, a las co - sas y al Cre-a - dor.
Christ has brought us sal - va - tion, dy-ing there and ris-ing a - gain.
Christ brings rec - on-cil - ia - tion to all things and peo-ple with God.

to Refrain
(Estribillo)

To-das las co - sas re - na - cen en la nue-va cre-a - ción.
To - do re - na - ce a la vi - da en la nue-va cre-a - ción.
Ev-ery-thing comes to new birth-ing, all cre - a - tion is re - born.
Na-ture bursts in - to new flow-ering, all cre - a - tion is re - born.

3 Cie-lo y tie-rra se a-bra-zan,
nues-tra al-ma ha-lla el per-dón.
Vuel-ven a a-brir-se los cie-los
pa-ra el mun-do pe-ca-dor.
Is-ra-el pe-re-gri-no,
vi-ve y can-ta tu re-den-ción.
Hay nue-vos mun-dos a-bier-tos
en la nue-va cre-a-ción.
Estribillo

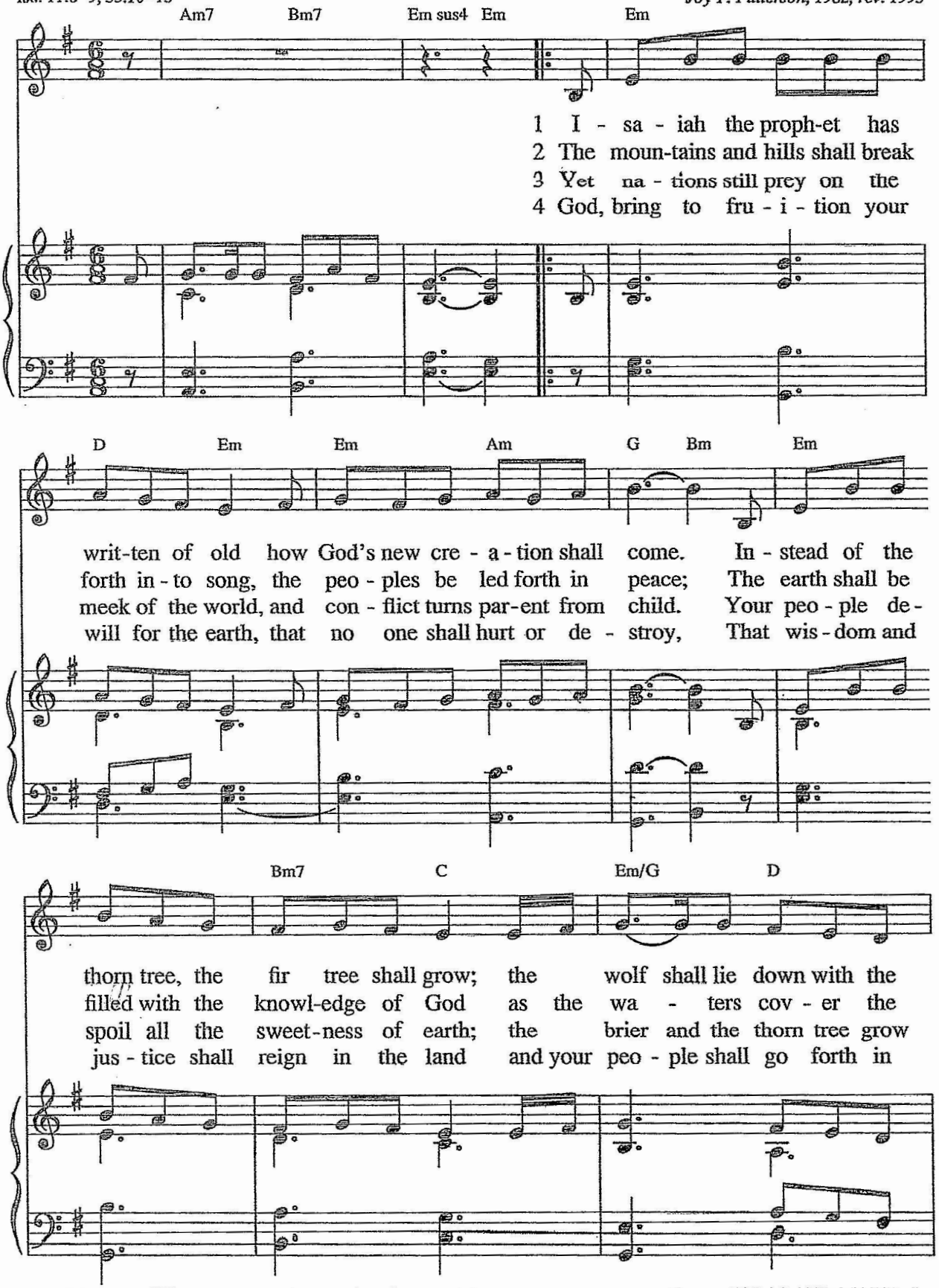
3 Heav-en and earth are em-brac-ing,
and our souls find par-don at last.
Now heav-en's gates are re-o-pened
to the sin-ner, to us all.
This is Is-ra-el's jour-ney;
now we live, sal-va-tion's our song;
Christ's re-sur-rec-tion has freed us.
There are new worlds to ex-plore.
Refrain

1/2

108 Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old

Isa. 11:6–9; 55:10–13

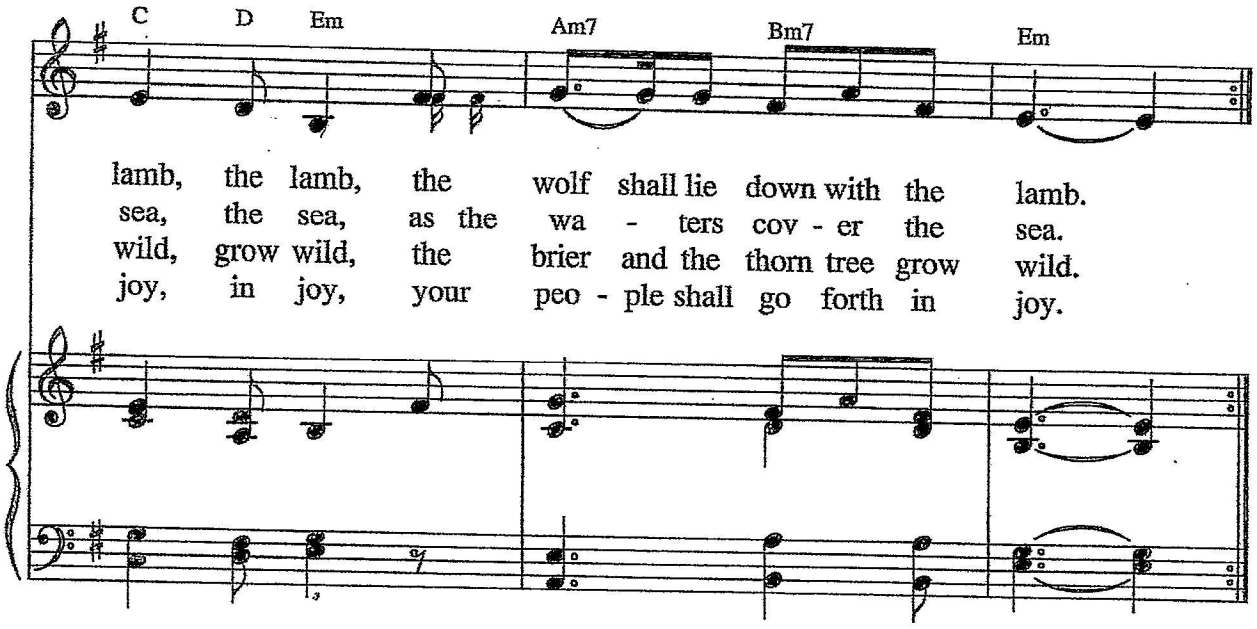
Joy F. Patterson, 1982; rev. 1993


Am7 Bm7 Em sus4 Em Em
1 I - sa - iah the proph-et has writ-ten of old how God's new cre - a - tion shall come. In - stead of the
2 The moun-tains and hills shall break forth in - to song, the peo - ples be led forth in peace; The earth shall be
3 Yet na - tions still prey on the meek of the world, and con - flict turns par-ent from child. Your peo - ple de -
4 God, bring to fru - i - tion your will for the earth, that no one shall hurt or de - stroy, That wis - dom and
D Em Em Am G Bm Em
Bm7 C Em/G D
thorn tree, the fir tree shall grow; the wolf shall lie down with the
filled with the knowl-edge of God as the wa - ters cov - er the
spoil all the sweet-ness of earth; the brier and the thorn tree grow
jus - tice shall reign in the land and your peo - ple shall go forth in

Joy Patterson, of Wausau, Wisconsin, served on the editorial committee for The Presbyterian Hymnal, *1990. This text was one of seven winning hymns published in* New Hymns for Children *by Choristers Guild and The Hymn Society of America.*

Tune: JUDAS AND MARY Irr.
Sydney Carter, 1964

Words Copyright © 1982 by The Hymn Society


C D Em Am7 Bm7 Em
lamb, the lamb, the wolf shall lie down with the lamb.
sea, the sea, as the wa - ters cov - er the sea.
wild, grow wild, the brier and the thorn tree grow wild.
joy, in joy, your peo - ple shall go forth in joy.

108 Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old

Joy Forster Patterson (b. 1931) wrote this text in 1981, based on the vision of the peaceable dominion in Isaiah 11. It was one of the winning hymns in a 1982 contest sponsored by the Hymn Society and was published in *New Hymns for Children* that same year.

Joy F. Patterson was born in Lansing, Michigan, and grew up in LaGrange, Illinois. A Fulbright scholar at the University of Strasbourg, France, she taught French and worked as a Social Security claims representative. As a musician, she is mostly self-taught and has six published choral pieces.

Sydney Bertram Carter (b. 1915) wrote this music in 1964 for his song known as JUDAS AND MARY. Carter composed church music largely in a folk-song style, and his work quickly became popular with youth during the 1970s in England and the United States.

Sydney B. Carter, born in Camden, England, was a schoolmaster at Frensham Heights School and served with the Quaker Ambulance Unit during World War II. His two collections of songs are *9 Ballads or Carols* (1962) and *Green Print for Song* (1973).